

9th August 2007

Our Ref: 34301

Mr. Dermot Byrne,
Chief Executive Officer
EirGrid
27 Lower Fitzwilliam Street
Dublin 2

Re: Reserving System Access Capacity for East West Interconnector

Dear Dermot,

I refer to the Commission's letter of 16th July on the above matter.

The Commission has concluded its consultation and has decided to issue a direction to EirGrid on this matter.

Therefore, the Commission hereby directs EirGrid, pursuant to Section 34(1) of the Electricity Regulation Act 1999, to assume in connection studies for the purpose of preparing and issuing future connection offers on foot of connection applications deemed complete after 9th August 2007, that a 500 MW HVDC interconnector, both in terms of importing and exporting capacity, to Great Britain will be connected and accommodated on to the system at the Woodland transmission station no later than the end of 2011.

In the event that EirGrid receives a connection application and concludes that the offer will be materially affected by the assumed 500 MW interconnector connection at Woodland, EirGrid will consult the Commission prior to making a connection offer.

The Commission reserves the right to issue a specific direction to deal with this contingency, including a direction that modifies that terms set out herein, if it concludes that this is warranted by the wider public interest.

Yours sincerely,

Michael G. Tutty
Commissioner

Cc Tom Reeves, Chairman